

McN-Bell 11/5 11:59

From intercept, looks as if we have lost a plane,  
a low-level one shot down by Russian-sounding people, &  
it appears we have a fighter attack on two of our other  
aircraft. Our own aircraft have not yet reported in.  
... I should be holding my breath.

11/3/62 10 am Bundy-Bell

Stevenson not shown JFK reply to K, just: Office too busy

Bundy: Reason for big edgy is that the very existence of secret  
correspondence with K has been a nuisance in the past;  
the moment anyone says there is a message, we have  
to show it to Alphonse, then we are in trouble — so the  
message of the 26th shows

[10/27/62: 10:50 See had arranged to send off 9 or 26 letter to

London, Paris + Frankfurt, with instructions to give to Mac + de G.

[Other: telling Alphonse is like publishing in NYT]

as of afternoon Monday, Oct 29, Stevenson (US) did not know if Anderson was alive - asked U Thant to get him released, if alive.

U Thant memo, from the UN, 6. 185-86  
U Thant, Saw Anderson to Cuba ("very young"), Ridge, <sup>Big. then.</sup>  
Saw general in charge of the mission (Victor Davidow),  
meeting in Havana, 7:45, Tues. Oct 30 (after arrival 1:15,  
meeting with Castro, 3-7?

Stevenson - Sec 10/31/62  
[to Havana]  
Saw Amb. told U Thant

Order from K to dismantle received between 1 and 2 p.m.  
Started dismantling by at 5 on Sunday. Will be all over  
it later by Friday, when we will have finished  
bulldozing of sites. Even the pads will be gone, but  
no Cuban observation of the dismantling is permitted.

As to aircraft, Russians assured them that ~~no~~ Cuban had  
not been trained to fly them. Any equipment, low-mounted  
will go. All the A-4, but SAM & conventional, is moved by  
Cubans. It was a Cuban plane that shot down our plane.

① not in  
U Thant  
memo; but see  
p. 188:

Castro to  
U Thant:  
"He explained  
that the U-2  
had been  
brought  
down by  
Cuban  
anti-aircraft  
guns, manned  
only by  
Cubans, and  
that the  
airman fell  
with the plane  
and died  
instantly."

Castro is frustrated, intense, hysterical.  
Ridge: please log off the record till Friday. After that you  
will find they have bulldozed all of the sites.

after 2nd meeting with Castro, 31 Oct, 10, after lunch to UN after

11/1/62 Bill Sec. Castro talked as though he had all the info

aircraft and he did boast that it was the Cubans who had

Castro to U Thant: p. 188

How strong was/is evidence that U-2 was hit/engaged by SAM,  
or that it was downed by SAM? (vs. downed by AA)

all assumed, without question, by all (?) to explain

Note: No one has ever said: (1) U-2 was shot down by a SAM.  
Khushchov + Davidow have  
denied all 3 (said it was Cubans) (2) U-2 was shot down by Russians  
Khushchov and Castro denied 1, 2, 3. (3) U-2 was shot down on Khushchov's orders.  
(But Castro has also offered 1 and 2



isn't down Major Anderson. Maybe himself is not at all  
persuaded that this was ~~not~~ <sup>just</sup> only boastfulness on his  
part.

... He feels that there is a state of very definite kind of  
hysteria down there at the moment; that they are probably  
going to be looking for flights today and that they are going  
to throw everything that they have. After Castro makes his speech  
he thinks that if we could delay until tomorrow that the  
chances of getting into any real trouble are considerably diminished;  
particularly if we change the flight patterns.

That didn't want to have to make gains, but it went down. (SV)

He said on a Security Council meeting that Castro would not like  
to hold the meeting off till after the 6th.

See why the 6th!

Call: Why on elections